

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all previous versions and listings of claims in this application.

Claim Listing:

Claim 1: (Canceled).

2. (Currently amended) ~~A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the~~ The method of claim 21, further comprising associating the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information with one of the at least two different prepaid profiles is carried out during subscription provisioning.

3. (Currently amended) ~~A method as claimed in claim 1, the method.~~ The method of claim 21, further comprising updating subscriber information during recharge as defined in the one prepaid profile.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A method as claimed in claim 1, which has.~~ The method of claim 21, wherein the attribute of being comprises a deposit function defining how to calculate the credit during recharge from the amount added.

5. (Currently amended) ~~A method as claimed in claim 1, which has.~~ The method of claim 21, wherein the attribute of being comprises an expiry function defining how to calculate the validity time of the prepaid credit.

6. (Currently amended) ~~A method as claimed in claim 1, which has.~~ The method of claim 21, wherein the attribute of being comprises an expiry state handling function defining how the possibilities of a prepaid subscriber are limited over time when no recharge is carried out.

Claim 7: (Canceled).

8. (Currently amended) ~~A telecommunications system as claimed in claim 7.~~ The system of claim 22, wherein the at least one attribute is comprises a deposit function and the system is further arranged to calculate a prepaid subscriber's credit according to the deposit

function defined in the one prepaid profile associated with the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information.

9. (Currently amended) ~~A telecommunications system as claimed in claim 7~~ The system of claim 22, wherein the attribute ~~is comprises~~ an expiry function and the system is further arranged to calculate a prepaid subscriber's credit validity according to the expiry function defined in the one prepaid profile associated with the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information.

10. (Currently amended) ~~A telecommunications system as claimed in claim 7~~ The system of claim 22, wherein the attribute ~~is comprises~~ an expiry handling function and the system is further arranged to limit the possibilities of a prepaid subscriber over time according to the expiry handling function defined in the one prepaid profile associated with the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information.

Claims 11-12: (Cancelled).

13. (Currently amended) ~~A network element as claimed in claim 12~~ The network element of claim 23, wherein the attribute ~~is comprises~~ a deposit function defining how to calculate the credit during recharge.

14. (Currently amended) ~~A network element as claimed in claim 12~~ The network element of claim 23, wherein the attribute ~~is comprises~~ an expiry function defining how to calculate the validity time of the prepaid credit.

15. (Currently amended) ~~A network element as claimed in claim 12~~ The network element of claim 23, wherein the attribute ~~is comprises~~ an expiry state handling function defining how the possibilities of a prepaid subscriber are limited over time when no recharge is carried out.

16. (Currently amended) ~~A method as claimed in claim 1~~, wherein said defining ~~includes~~ The method of claim 21, further comprising predefining the at least two different prepaid profiles in the telecommunication system before said at least one prepaid subscriber accesses the telecommunication system.

17. (Currently Amended) A network element comprising:

a processor configured to have access to ~~subscriber information on prepaid subscribers~~ and to at least two different prepaid profile definitions, each prepaid profile comprising defining at least one attribute for the prepaid service,

~~the attribute indicating~~ defining how prepaid service ~~is to be provided, and to update, during a prepaid subscriber's account recharge, subscriber information on the prepaid subscriber according to a prepaid profile associated with the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information, the associated prepaid profile being one of the at least two different prepaid profiles; information relating to the attribute is to be updated during a recharge,~~

a first way defined in a first prepaid profile providing different updated information than a second way defined in a second prepaid profile with the same given values, and to have access to subscriber information on prepaid subscribers,

a prepaid subscriber's subscriber information comprising prepaid service information and an indication of which one of the at least two different prepaid profiles is to be used with this subscriber, and to update, during a prepaid subscriber's account recharge,

the prepaid service information in the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information as defined by the attribute in the prepaid profile indicated by the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information, the attribute not being selectable by means of recharge,

18. (Currently Amended) A network element comprising:

means for obtaining ~~subscriber voucher information of prepaid subscribers who can prepay for their calls by recharging their accounts via vouchers; on a voucher in response to a prepaid subscriber recharging via the voucher;~~

means for obtaining ~~to at least two different~~ non-subscriber-specific prepaid profile definitions, each prepaid profile defining comprising at least one attribute for the prepaid service, the attribute indicating how the prepaid service information relating to the attribute is to be updated with the voucher information during a recharge, a first way defined in a first prepaid

profile providing different updated information than a second way defined in a second prepaid profile with the same given values; provided; and

means for updating the subscriber information during recharge according to a prepaid profile associated with the recharging prepaid subscriber's subscriber information, the associated prepaid profile being one of the at least two different prepaid profiles.

means for obtaining subscriber information on prepaid subscribers, a prepaid subscriber's subscriber information comprising prepaid service information and an indication of which one of the at least two different prepaid profiles is to be used; and

means for updating the subscriber information during the recharge according to a prepaid profile associated with the recharging prepaid subscriber's subscriber information.

19. (New) A method comprising:

maintaining subscriber information on at least one prepaid subscriber using a prepaid subscription,

maintaining voucher information on vouchers by means of which prepaid subscribers can recharge their accounts,

maintaining at least two different prepaid profile definitions to be used with prepaid subscriptions, each prepaid profile comprising at least one attribute for the prepaid service, one of the at least one attribute being an expiry function defining how to calculate the validity time of the prepaid credit, a first prepaid profile comprising a first way to calculate the validity time and a second prepaid profile comprising a second way to calculate the validity time, the second way being different from the first way;

associating the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information with only one prepaid profile,

obtaining, in response to a prepaid subscriber performing a recharge of the prepaid subscriber's account via a voucher, values of the voucher, the values including a credit period of the voucher,

calculating, in response to the recharge, the prepaid subscriber's credit validity time according to the expiry function defined in the prepaid profile associated with the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information, the expiry function using the obtained credit period of the voucher as an input.

20. (New) A network element comprising a processor configured to:

have access to values of vouchers, the vouchers being usable for recharging prepaid accounts, the values including for each voucher a credit period of the voucher;

have access to at least two different prepaid profile definitions, each prepaid profile comprising at least an expiry function as an attribute for the prepaid service, the expiry function defining how to calculate a validity time of the prepaid credit during a recharge, a first way defined in a first prepaid profile providing different updated validity time than a second way defined in a second prepaid profile with the same given input;

have access to subscriber information on prepaid subscribers, a prepaid subscriber's subscriber information comprising prepaid service information including credit validity time and an indication of which one of the at least two different prepaid profiles is to be used with this subscriber;

in response to a prepaid subscriber performing a recharge of the prepaid subscriber's account via a voucher, to obtain values of the voucher including a credit period of the voucher; and

to calculate the prepaid subscriber's updated credit validity time according to the expiry function defined in the prepaid profile indicated in the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information, the expiry function using the obtained credit period of the voucher as an input.

21. (New) A method, comprising:

maintaining at least two different prepaid profiles definitions, each prepaid profile comprising for the prepaid service at least one attribute defining how prepaid service information relating to the attribute is to be updated during recharge, a first way defined in a first prepaid

profile providing different updated information than a second way defined in a second prepaid profile with the same given values;

maintaining subscriber information on a prepaid subscriber, the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information comprising prepaid service information and an indication of which only one of the at least two different prepaid profiles is to be used with this subscriber; and

updating, in response to the prepaid subscriber recharging the prepaid subscriber's account, the prepaid service information in the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information as defined by the attribute in the prepaid profile indicated by the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information.

22. (New) A telecommunications system, comprising:

at least one database having subscriber information on at least one prepaid subscriber, a prepaid subscriber's subscriber information comprising subscriber-specifically maintained prepaid service information,

wherein the system is arranged to maintain at least two different prepaid profiles, each prepaid profile comprising at least one attribute for the prepaid service, the at least one attribute defining how prepaid service information relating to the attribute is to be updated during recharge,

a first way defined in a first prepaid profile providing different updated information than a second way defined in a second prepaid profile with the same given values;

wherein the system is arranged to indicate, in the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information, which only one of the at least two different prepaid profiles is to be used; and

to update, in response to the prepaid subscriber recharging the prepaid subscriber's account, the prepaid subscriber's prepaid service information as indicated by the attribute defined in the prepaid profile indicated by the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information.

23. (New) A network element comprising:

a database containing at least two different prepaid profile definitions, each prepaid profile comprising, for the prepaid service, at least one attribute definition defining how subscriber-specifically maintained prepaid service information relating to the attribute is to be updated in a corresponding subscriber information during recharge of a subscriber account;

a first way defined in a first prepaid profile providing different updated information than a second way defined in a second prepaid profile with the same given values, the prepaid profile definitions not being definitions for means of recharge.